James R. Campbell 1819 La Sombra San Antonio, TX 78209 December 29, 2006

Ms. Aurora Geis Fannie Mae 700 N. St. Mary's Street, Suite 1925 San Antonio, TX 78205

Dear Ms. Geis:

Congratulations on your appointment to Co-chair the Community Initiatives Committee of the 2007 Bond Program. I know you will do a great job.

I want to make your committee aware of a relatively inexpensive, high impact project that I believe is an appropriate candidate for bond proceeds; the demolition of a condemned gymnasium at Lockwood Park. This project is included in the Parks System Strategic Plan 2006-2016 and could be accomplished for as little as \$200,000.

Lockwood Park, along with its sister park, Dignowity, are the geographic and historic center of the Dignowity Hill neighborhood. Dignowity Hill has an historic designation and is undergoing significant renewal. When completed, the federally-funded Hays Street Bridge project will deliver bikers and pedestrians from downtown to within one block of the Park. This will become the true "gateway to the Eastside."

The views of downtown San Antonio, from the parks, are unparalleled. And yet, the condemned gymnasium mars the view and ambience of the park. Having reviewed the Bond Project Selection Criteria, it appears that this project would satisfy, at least, criteria 1, 6, 8 and 9 (see attached).

Unfortunately, I will be out of town on January 8th and unable to present this request in person to the Community Initiatives Committee. I respectfully request that you share this information with the Committee. Thank you for your assistance. I would be happy to provide any additional detail you might require.

Sincerely,

fames R. Campbell

C.c. Councilwoman Sheila McNeil

Erik Walsh

Malcolm Matthews

Bond Program Project Selection Criteria's Application to the Lockwood Park Demolition Proposal

- 1. Coordinate and collaborate infrastructure improvement... Any improvement to Lockwood Park would be a significant complement to the \$2.89 million TEA 21 funding for the Hays Street Bridge restoration. The Park is one block up Hays Street from the foot of the bridge. The City's Planning Department website describes the link between the two projects this way: "...one of the primary objectives for the adaptive reuse of this historic landmark is to reestablish a significant link between the Dignowity Hill neighborhood and downtown, which is separated from the neighborhood by industrial property and Interstate Highway 37."
- 6. <u>Infrastructure improvements within Loop 410</u>... The proposed project is less than a mile from downtown and located in the heart of a Citydesignated, historic district.
- 8. Improve <u>public safety and private property</u>, <u>public health and public welfare</u>. The proposal is to demolish a building that has been condemned for several years and has been sitting in the middle of a neighborhood, unused and detracting from the beauty of the surrounding residences, many of which are undergoing renovation and historic restoration.
- 9. ...City of San Antonio City Council approved Strategic Planning Documents. The proposed project is included in the Parks System Strategic Plan 2006-2016.